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VOL. II NO. 260

TUESDAY, AUGUST 5, 1947.

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SPECIAL BUDGET LIKELY TO PREVENT INFLATION

\$RELIEF FOR BRITAIN HINTED

Washington, Aug. 4.—A declaration by the International Monetary Fund of dollars as "scarce currency"—thus enabling Britain and other countries the temporary use of discriminatory import restrictions and perhaps relieving Britain of her convertibility obligations—is one of the possibilities being considered by officials studying the British economic crisis here, it was learned authoritatively today.

The State Department made it clear through a spokesman that it would make no comment on the British crisis or discuss any measures it has under consideration until after the speech of the Prime Minister, Mr. Clement Attlee, on Wednesday.

Authoritative diplomatic circles, nevertheless, stated today:

1. The possibility of a declaration of dollars as "scarce currency" under Article Seven of the International Funds Articles of Agreement is being considered, though no formal step has yet been contemplated.

2. As a consequence of such a move, Britain could be relieved temporarily of the convertibility and "discrimination" obligations of the Anglo-American financial agreement and would also be able, if she wanted, to apply for a \$25,000,000 loan from the fund as a stop gap measure.—Reuter.

M.P. Admits He Is Newspaper Tip-Off Man

London, Aug. 4.—Mr. Evelyn Walker, Labour Member of Parliament and a journalist, today admitted in the House of Commons that he had been paid by the London Evening News for information and guidance on political and industrial subjects, including news to the political correspondent, Mr. Stanley Dobson.

Mr. Walker, for 40 years a member of the Labour Party, told the House of Commons that he was the Member of Parliament mentioned by both Mr. Dobson and the Evening News editor, Mr. Guy Schofield, to the House of Commons Committee of Privileges which last Thursday alleged the failure of a "gross breach of privilege" and "aggravated contempt of the House of Commons."

The Committee found that Mr. Walker had been paid by the Evening Standard for information about Parliamentary business.

Mr. Walker said that his association with the Evening News was purely in an advisory capacity, to his political correspondent whom he had known for many years.—Reuter.

EDITORIAL

Salaries Commission

THE Salaries Commission has now been sitting for a long time, while, with growing impatience, those who hope to benefit from its recommendations await some pronouncement. It is realized that deliberations of such importance cannot be rushed; that all testimony which may positively contribute to a fair and balanced judgment must be taken, sifted, compared and finally incorporated in the Commission's report. After this has been said, it still remains to be insisted that the Commission should speed up its work and submit its proposals at the earliest possible moment. The Telegraph quoted the case on Saturday of a Portuguese police constable, with a wife and four children, whose monthly income of \$150, made up of \$60 basic, \$18 gratification, \$12 allowance and \$12 high cost of living allowance. Can the Salaries Commission need further evidence of the dire necessity of a large majority of the Hongkong civil service? The basic salary of \$60 a month is fantastically out of proportion, not only as regards living costs, but in relation to value of the work which a police constable is expected to give to the community. Neither can it be pleaded that this constable's case

Forecast Of British Gov't's New Economic Plan

London, Aug. 4.—The Government is prepared to introduce a special autumn budget to counteract any serious inflationary dangers that may arise from the measures it will announce on Wednesday to meet Britain's present economic crisis, it is authoritatively learned today.

The most serious problem may come from the increased spending powers of workers in industries whose production will have been stepped up.

The Government will take a decision on the question of an autumn budget only after it has been able to study the effects of its proposed vast redeployment of industries and trades that would be producing more and others that would be producing less.

The Prime Minister, Mr. Clement Attlee, in a 90-minute speech in Parliament on Wednesday, will give Britain and the world a complete picture of the country's economic plight and the immediate measures with which the Government proposes to meet it.

Today, Mr. Attlee had a preliminary meeting with the financial group of Cabinet members.

A special meeting of the Defence Committee, which includes all of Britain's service chiefs, was also held at No. 10, Downing Street, the Prime Minister's official residence, to deal with the curtailment of service manpower. This is one of the principal cuts which the Government intends to make with the object of stabilising the national economy through the boosting of exports and the restriction of imports.

Reports of today's conferences will be placed before a meeting of the full Cabinet tomorrow, which will approve the Government's scheme and Mr. Attlee's speech in the House of Commons the following day.

KEY TO THE PLAN

The key to the Government's plan is a wholesale redeployment of industry that will draw more and more productive capacity into:

1. Those industries which provide the country's best types of exports; and

2. Into other industries whose job it will be to produce commodities for the home market to replace those that will no longer be imported from abroad.

This plan inevitably will depress the non-essential industries of the country, but is not expected to produce unemployment since the intention is, by regional schemes, to absorb labour from the non-essential trades into top-priority industries. The Government will take powers to extend its present control over labour.

The Government still possess wartime powers of control of the manpower in the mining and agricultural industries. Operatives in these industries may move from one firm to another but not out of the industry.

This machinery of control will now be extended to cover a large number of essential trades.

In the next few weeks, the Government will have to take a decision upon the iron and steel industry, from which, in the interests of the economic drive, it is determined to get a much larger output. This industry is scheduled for nationalisation in the next Parliamentary session.

DIRECTING MATERIALS

It may be that, in order to get quicker control than would be possible if the highly controversial steel nationalisation bill goes before Parliament next year, the Government will, as a temporary expedient, assume national direction though not the ownership of the iron and steel industry.

It is considered unlikely that there will be any positive direction of labour in specific industries. The Government's purpose will be achieved, rather, from the positive direct of raw materials and coal.

It follows that industries which have been furnished by the Government with unlimited supplies of these two essentials will be working over-time whereas industries whose allocations have been curtailed will be working short time.

Quarters close to the Cabinet make it clear that the Government is ruling nothing out of its present economic review.

No administrative difficulties will be allowed to stand in the way of any proposal calculated to increase production for actual export or for home markets to replace exports from dollar countries.

The strongest sanctions will be available to ensure that inefficient managements can, if necessary, be set aside.

RETRENCHMENT

The draft programme of import restrictions decided by the Government has yet to be revealed, but it may be assumed that petrol ranks among the dollar consuming commodities on which savings will be made, together with films and various items of imported foodstuffs.

This aspect of retrenchment involves the British Zone of Germany, where the main strain upon British dollar resources is caused by her financing of German imports.

The curtailment in the volume and variety of consumer goods that will be available for import under the new plan is a danger signal of which the Government is well aware.

Taken in conjunction with the increased "spending money" that will be earned by priority industry workers, it points the way to possible inflation unless controlled.

That the Government has a plan for this control is certain, and if an autumn budget is considered necessary, doubtless it will deal with this problem.

It has already even made it clear, however, that the Government does not propose anything in the nature of compulsory "loans" to the State or an extension of the postwar credits system.

Heavier taxation must, however, be ruled out as a possibility.—Reuter.

CUTTING DOWN FORCES

London, Aug. 4.—Without waiting for the return of Field Marshal Lord Montgomery, Chief of Imperial General Staff, the Defence Committee of the Cabinet today met to discuss urgent plans to cut Britain's armed forces.

If the plans are approved by the full Cabinet tomorrow, they will be announced by the Prime Minister in Parliament on Wednesday as part of the Government's new crisis policy.

One likely estimate is that 300,000 men will be demobilised between now and the end of the year, which would have the effect of reducing British military strength to about 1,000,000 men.

Forces in Italy, Austria, Greece and the Middle East would be chiefly affected by the cut.

Political observers believe the Government's urgent action shows its realisation that cuts in the forces have become one of the two main tests of the Government's policy in the eyes of both trade union and Labour Party leftwingers. The other test is that of steel nationalisation.

Events of the past few days have indicated that the Leftwing is not likely to oppose the Government's appeal for overtime work and all-round sacrifices to meet the crisis, provided, satisfaction is given on these two crucial issues.—Associated Press.

(Continued on Page 4)

Renewed Anti-Semitic Demonstrations

CROWDS LOOT LIVERPOOL SHOPS

Liverpool, Aug. 4.—Anti-Jewish demonstrations were renewed in Liverpool today as a crowd, several hundred strong, gathered in the shopping area and tried to loot from premises where windows were smashed in the disturbances last night.

Police arriving on the scene broke up the crowd.

In one case, a group, including women and children, entered a damaged drapers and tailor's store and scattered the account books, bills and papers in the street.

Today's outbreak was the first day-time disturbance in Liverpool since the start of anti-Semitic demonstrations in several British towns, including Glasgow, Manchester and London which followed last week's hanging by Jewish terrorists in Palestine of two British sergeants.

An official statement today by the Chief Constable of Liverpool disclosed that in last night's disturbances, there were in all 69 incidents, chiefly of window breaking.

"The premises attacked were mainly shops and there seemed to be a greater urge for looting than on previous nights," the Chief Constable declared.

"There were several instances of looting and more would have occurred but for the preventive action taken by the police."

The Lord Mayor of Liverpool today appealed to citizens to assist the police in the prevention of attacks of property and shops supposedly owned by Jews, declaring this form of demonstration against the terrorists in Palestine was "not only ineffective but unfair and un-English"—Reuter.

DRASTIC ACTION

Jerusalem, Aug. 4.—The British Army demolished with explosives today a Jewish-owned house for hiding an Irgun arsenal.

The Army evacuated all residents from Givat Shaul, Jewish quarter in North Jerusalem, and set demolition charges under a half-wooden, half-stone, one-storey building. A strong formation of troops and police threw a cordon around the quarter while sappers placed the charges and set it off.

It was the first time the Army had used its newly-acquired powers, under the emergency regulations, to destroy any house where, in the opinion of the military commanders, terrorists had been harboured or aided.

The British had not taken such action since the Arab rebellions of 1936-39, when whole villages suspected of harbouring Arab guerrillas were blown up.

A silent crowd of Jews watched the demolition from outside the cordon. The two families living in the house were warned to evacuate yesterday.—United Press.

BANK HOLD-UP

Jerusalem, Aug. 4.—Eight armed Jews, including one woman, today

Shanghai Murder: Second Arrest

Shanghai, Aug. 5.—American military police arrested on Monday Thomas A. Malloy of Chicago in connection with the slaying on Friday of Yu Shen-pao, alleged black market currency dealer.

The Chinese police said Malloy was implicated in a written signed statement by Charles Archer, Hong Kong born British national taken into custody earlier.—Associated Press.



MR. CHURCHILL

Churchill's Slashing Attack On Labour Government

Woodstock, England, Aug. 4.—Mr. Winston Churchill charged today that the Labour Government had "frittered away" the American loan on "indulgences" such as picture shows and tobacco instead of spending it for Britain's recovery from war.

"When you borrow money from another country for the sacred purpose of rehabilitation, it is wrong to squander it upon indulgences," Mr. Churchill said.

He said the Government statement, expected on Wednesday to make drastic curtailments did not offer any measure "that would not have been far more effective if made a year or six months ago." He added that the Labourites had waited until too late because "they were too busy planning controls and queues of hordes of officials and multitudes of resolutions."

Mr. Churchill spoke to a gathering, estimated by police at between 40,000 and 60,000, on the great lawn of Blenheim Palace, which is the ancestral home of the Dukes of Marlborough, and Mr. Churchill's birthplace.

He said, "The foundation of British policy must be ever closer association with the United States."

DIRECT LINK

The Secretary of State, General George Marshall, had stated publicly his plan for aiding Europe was "directly linked" with the Churchill scheme for a United States of Europe, Mr. Churchill said.

He rejected talk about a coalition government and said "the only hope of national recovery" would be dismissal from office by the British electorate of those who have so obviously failed in their task.

He called for a general election and said that until the Socialists were defeated "there will be no recovery from our present misfortunes."

He declared that it was not Britain's aim to divide Europe, but "it is true that an iron curtain has descended across Europe from Stalin on the Baltic to Trieste on the Adriatic."

"We do not wish the slightest ill to those who dwell in the East.... Let there by sunshine on both sides of the iron curtain both if sunshine should be equal on both sides of the iron curtain, the curtain will melt in the warm light of happy days and cheerful friendship."

COUNTRY'S EVIL FLIGHT

This was Mr. Churchill's first political speech since his recent illness. He told the Conservative rally today that "our minds are weary of the evil plagues into which our country has fallen."

"The Cabinet Ministers tell us every weekend how bad our position is and that the twelfth hour will strike before the end of the year. The main facts are obvious to every

thinking man and woman. Under the capitalist system of free enterprise, we had bred in Great Britain nearly 47 millions of people... whose progress was constant and whose standard of living before the war was already the highest in Europe.

"I could not have believed on the morrow of the German and Japanese surrenders that so short a period of time could bring us all so low. Nearby, on the continent of Europe, we have seen countries which were conquered, ravaged and stripped by the enemy and were liberated by strong arms, which already have restored thriving active life to their peoples."

"But we of proud Britain, who stood alone against a mighty tyrant, who kept the flag of freedom flying unaided for more than a whole year, are now forced to live on foreign aid and also to subject ourselves to privations worse than those in the war. And if these hardships are not the least before us, bankruptcy, such as the facts laid before us by the Ministers of the Socialist Government and confirmed by all that we can learn for ourselves. We are told that on Wednesday next, the Prime Minister is to unfold another catalogue of national calamities which everyone must endure."

DELAYED ACTION

"In spite of all our warnings, he has left action so late I fear that his measures will not be equal to the emergency and will only be another story of privation, frustration and restriction along our downward path."

Mr. Churchill said the Conservatives had supported all matters taken in the public interest, such as the American loan, although I was alarmed at some of the conditions that were imposed on it."

"However, I relied and rely now on the wisdom of the fair-minded American people to make the necessary easements without which the policy for which they had made heavy sacrifices will certainly fail in its effect."

"There is no shame in one brave and faithful ally, deeply injured in a common struggle, asking another to help him recover and stand upon his feet. Had the positions been reversed, we would have done the same for them. Therefore, I supported the American loan, and I also support and justify further appeals to the United States, provided that we are doing our best, that we are making the most of our resources, that we are determined to become a self-supporting nation and system at the earliest moment and will put aside every impediment and labour long and hard."

OBJECT OF LOAN

"It is when we are not trying our best, not making the most of ourselves and our resources, not pursuing a wise or practical policy, not coming forward as a united nation, not trying to deal with problems on their merits, that there is humiliation in asking, and receiving, aid from a mighty and friendly ally."

"The object of the American loan and its only possible justification was to enable us to get our industry and agriculture working with the fullest activity and to bring in the necessary food for we grow barely half we need—until conditions of world trade were restored. It was thought this would take between three or four years of good administration, strict economy and united effort by all parties and classes under conditions of growing freedom from war time restriction."

Mr. Churchill said these hopes had not been fulfilled and the fault was not wholly that of the Socialist Government but partly because of rising prices in the United States and the fact that there is no sure that the United States ought and will take into consideration in relaxing conditions which hamper our purchases in sterling from our Dominions and colonies."

GOVERNMENT FOLLIES

"But there are other reasons why the loan has been ineffective. Owing to the folly and indecision of the Socialist Government, the great part of the loan has been spent, not on requirements of our industry, nor upon import of basic foodstuffs."

"Instead, much has frittered away in American films and tobacco and in large quantities of food and fuel which, however desirable as indulgences, were not indispensable to our active recovery."

(Continued on Page 4)

SOMERSET SKITTLED OUT FOR 25 RUNS

London, Aug. 3.—Gloucestershire, continuing their strong bid for County championship honours, beat Somerset today, skittling them out in the second innings in 50 minutes for 25 runs—the lowest total of the season.

Remarkable bowling by the 47-year-old Tom Goddard, right arm off-spinner, who took five wickets for four runs, including the hat-trick, was mainly responsible for the debacle. His total of five wickets was obtained in seven balls. There were six ducks in Somerset's innings, and ten batsmen scored only eight runs between them.

The close of play scores today were:

At Canterbury: Kent beat Hampshire by an innings and 44 runs. Kent 445 for seven declared, Hampshire 285 (Bridger 63, Mannors 121, Wright five for 123) and 116 (Wright five for 35, Dovey three for 10).

At Kennington Oval: Nottinghamshire 427, Surrey 273 for seven (Fishlock 60, Squires 63).

At Leicester: Northamptonshire 455 (Childs-Clarke 98), Leicestershire 224 (C.B. Clarke five for 60) and 21 for three.

At Hove: Middlesex 401 for four declared, Sussex 195 and 250 for six (C. Onks 80, Bartlett 80 not out).

At Derby: Derbyshire 325 (Smith 70), Warwickshire 107 for six.

At Chesham: Worcestershire 297 (Jenkins 63, Howarth 95), Essex 65 (Parks six for 24, Jackson three for five) and 144 for five.

At Bristol: Gloucestershire beat Somerset by 318 runs. Gloucestershire 424 and 393 for nine declared (Hazeledine five for 62, Somerset 80 and 25 (Goddard five for four, Barnett two

for 10, Lambert two for 10, Cook one for one).

At Sheffield: Yorkshire 310 for eight declared (Sellers 80), Lancashire 91 for two (Washbrook 59 not out).

At Loris: R.A.F. 200 (Shirrell 120, Army 163 for five (Hearn 39 not out).—Reuter.

SPIN BOWLERS' PITCH

Swansea, Aug. 4.—Heavy overnight rain, which penetrated the covers, left the pitch ideal for spin bowlers on the second day of the match between Glamorgan and the South Africans.

Seventeen of the 18 wickets which fell during the day fell to spin bowlers. The South African, Athol Rowan, got most assistance out of the turf, his accurate length and good flight keeping all batsmen subdued.

Glamorgan were all out for 107 in reply to the tourists' total of 200.

The Welsh off-break bowlers, Clay and Muncie, sent back six South African batsmen in the tourists' second innings for 80 before Viljoen and Pynn considerably put on 65 in 45 minutes for the seventh wicket.

At the close, the South Africans were 153 for eight, which left them 210 ahead.

The scores were: South Africa 260 and 153 for eight, Glamorgan 107.—Reuter.

ENGLISH GIRLS WIN

South Orange, N.J., Aug. 5.—Two British members of the Wightman Cup team, on Monday won their first round tennis matches in the eastern grass courts championships.

Mrs. Betty Hill defeated Priscilla J. Jones of Maplewood, New Jersey, 6-4, 6-2.

John Quartier defeated Carolyn Liguori of Brooklyn 6-1, 6-0.—Associated Press.

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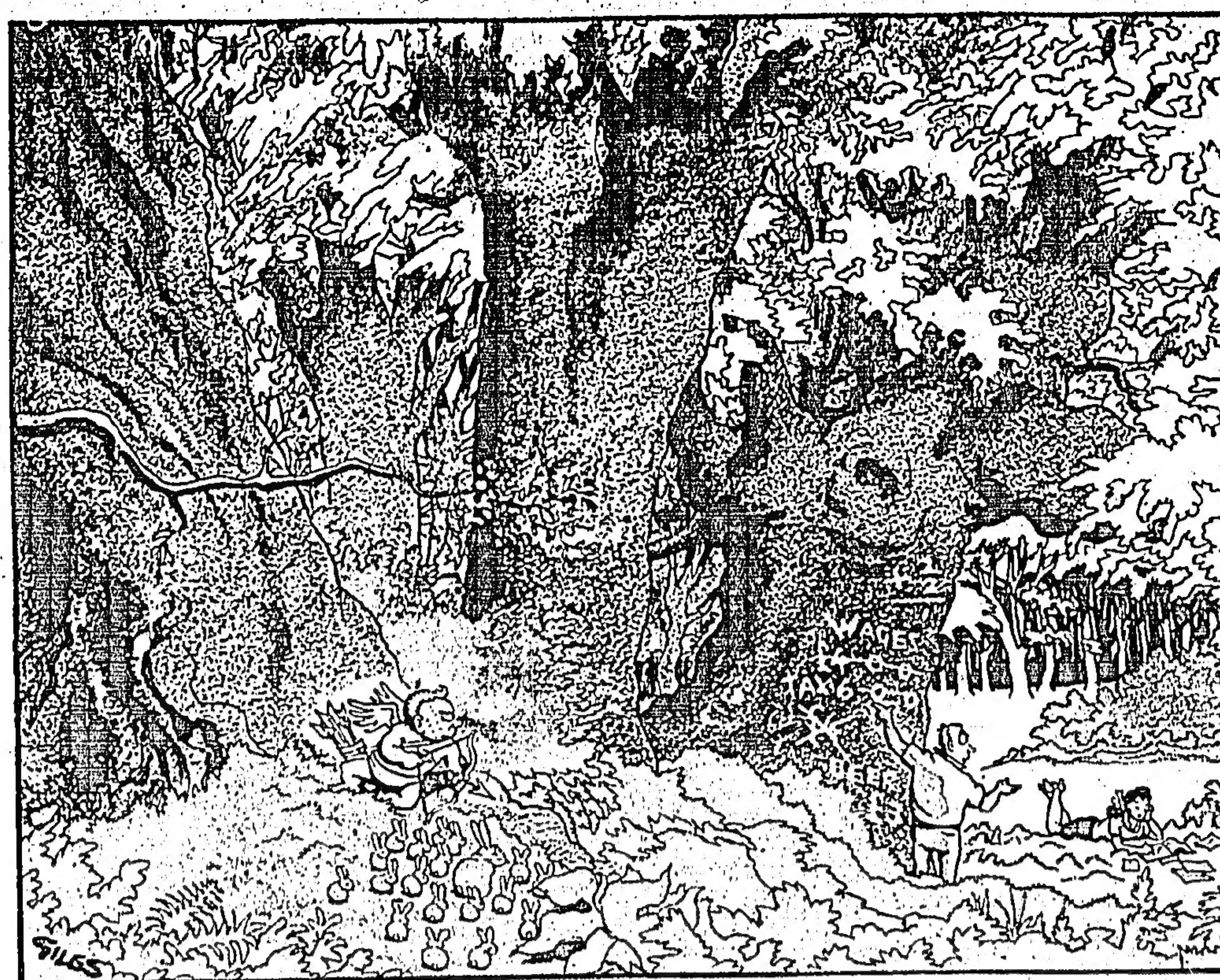
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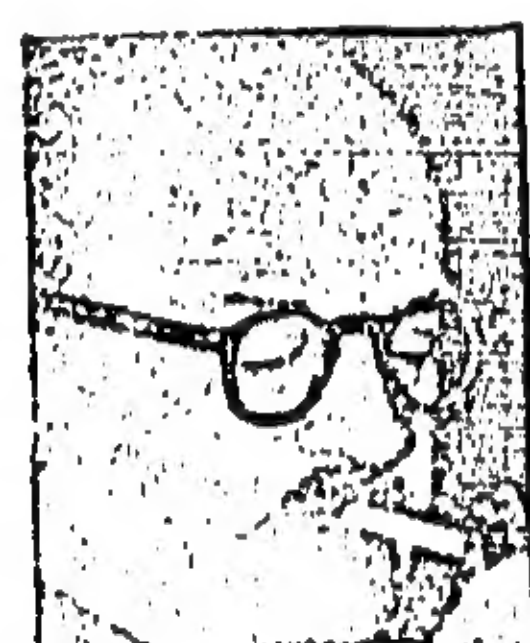
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IN TECHNICOLOR



"How much longer are they going to be working out this equal-pay-equal-work business?"



TED KAVANAGH

THE MAN WHO CREATED "ITMA," NOW IN AMERICA. VIEWS BROADWAY WITH MR HANDLEY... HEARS FROM A MYSTERIOUS STRANGER... AND REGRETS THE NEW SINATRA, ALIAS THE 'VELVET FOG'

NEW YORK. I'm still here in this inferno called New York—this hot, clanging, noisy city, where everything is the biggest in the world, including the policemen's tummies. Even the skyscrapers are high. While I write in my thirty-first floor hotel room the other scrapers reach so far above me I feel I'm in a bungalow.

Manhattan is a vast restaurant entirely surrounded by water. Every third building is an eating-house, and many are open all night.

They're all busy keeping the great American jaw in action, eating. They sell "Hamburgers with a college education" and "Glorified ham and eggs" to mention only two of the food shops.

It's a mystery to me why the Americans ever chew gum—there's so much else here to chew.

Still, Manhattan isn't really so big. It reminds me of a provincial town of several High-streets, with a disappointing fairground that they call Broadway.

Just Like Southend

BROADWAY is like Southend with a pinch of Blackpool and a spoonful of Bournemouth. Light the mixture up, vulgarise vastly, and you have the Great White Way. It's certainly a blaze of light, though Mr Shinwell would go raving mad if he saw it, especially as the lights shine all day.

Typical of the Broadway posters is one describing a film of New Orleans as "blocks of vice and corruption." In this heat it's a wonder the blocks of vice don't melt.

People here are still talking about the flying saucers. These created quite a stir. It's only been a few days, though, and, as I always say, they're often seen at home, especially in domestic circles. Still, next time we see one, we're going to call a cup.

Speaking of such, New York police have been enjoying themselves lately. The other day an armed smash-and-grab boy ran through the streets and on to a bus, pursued by a copper also carrying a gun. They shot it out in the middle of the bus-load of 40 passengers. The crook was killed. He didn't even have time to pay his fare. But then he didn't know where he was going, did he?

They Shoot To Kill

ANOTHER band! on the run carrying a gun through the tulips in a cop's back garden. The enraged officer was off duty at the time, but was wearing his gun (probably would have felt naked without it). When he saw his ruined bloom he took aim and shot the trespasser dead. Didn't apologise or anything.

One sidelight on this is the testimony of the city's police commissioner, Wallace who says the policemen shoot to kill "not because they are bloodthirsty, but because spectacular killings temporarily cut down the crime rate."

Bigger screams, more noise—good old New York. I'll need a new car if I'm here much longer—a bigger one than I ever had before. But you can buy anything here.

Flapping to pleasant things than my ears, we went to see Bobby Clark, one of the world's best comedians, in "Sweethearts."

"Sweethearts" is the 1913 Victor Herbert musical. No, it hasn't been running since then. This is the third revival, and Bobby makes no bones about it. "Never," he says to the audience, "was so thin a plot made so complicated." (I wonder if London producers would chance such a remark?)

They're Still At It

OLSEN and Johnson are still at it, but to my mind their show could not compare with that of our own Crazy Gang. Typical of their current humor is the one where Olsen asks Johnson if he believes in reincarnation. When Johnson says yes, Olsen says: "Well, what were you before you died?" That was the only gag I heard easily, as the guns going off all over the place, and the hellpoppin in the stalls.

Last night we went to Copacabana Night Club. I hope this film featuring Groucho Marx is better than the place it's named after. It was so dark down there I am sure I hit the band that fed me.

And that man Handley! When the waiter handed him the bill of fare all he could do was to stare at it and yell, "Blimey. This menu's like a West End revue."

He is difficult when it comes to cigarettes, too. He keeps muttering, "Only tenpence for 20, only tenpence for 20" (current price for cigarettes here). And he stands outside the cinemas—where smoking is prohibited—gazing bulgy-eyed at the ashtrays into which the customers dump their smokes before going in. These trays are full of almost new fags. It is terrible. Great big tears roll down Tommy's cheeks as he stands there watching the waste. We have had to use force once or twice to stop him stuffing the butts into his pockets.

Mitzi Grows Up

AND let me tell you about the snuff. Whenever Handley hands his around the Yankees stare because snuff is not snuffed here. We think snuff is as good as a feast and you should see that man walk about with his snuff-box pen inviting the Americans to "snuff up Uncle Sam."

You know Mitzi Green has made a New York come-back. You will remember her as a baby star in pictures years ago. She now does impersonations and songs in a night club, and she is great, especially in her burlesque of Carmen Miranda. Mitzi would be a big hit in London.

You are also going to hear about a crooner named Mel Torment—sorry Tormy.

They say he is another Sinatra—as if one wasn't enough—and he comes complete with quiff on top looking like every mother's son.

Terms is billed as "the velvet fog," but if that is velvet fog give me a good London pensour.

This fog-bound Sinatra gets £250 every time he sings, and he has been writing songs ever since he was six, he says. I will bet he wrote one I heard him sing long before that.

On The Record

MUCH of New York's night club entertainment is provided by the "disc jockeys" who broadcast from the premises all night long. These Gordon Richards play a few records and talk the rest of the time. They invite you to phone them during the broadcast to discuss anything under the sun—and some things that are not.

If you telephone you get the dubious pleasure of hearing their remarks over your radio and your telephone at the same time. One of the disc jockeys ends his conversations with the words "drop dead" which he can't think of anything else to say. But we don't mind. It is being so cheerful keeps us going.

Anyway, he is no more incredible than other things over here. A mysterious stranger has been telephoning every night since our arrival. He calls in the wee small hours inviting us to go to parties at the Stork Club or the Waldorf or on airplane trips to Washington. Most of all, though, he wants us to go moose hunting.

If we go to a night club or a show he telephones saying he saw us there. We have repeatedly told him we are asleep, but all he says is: "What, again?" Perhaps he isn't real. Perhaps to-night he will say he is Funt—though we didn't think Funt would follow us here. If he does say he is Funt, then we will know he isn't real.

Paris... without the Folies?

By SALLY SWING

WHAT would Paris be without the Folies Bergeres? The probability that the Folies, the Bal Tabarin and other music halls of Paris would be forced to close loomed as a ghastly reality recently as the municipal government of Paris slapped one more tax on the already tax-weary music halls.

Music halls, where fancy jugglers caught snubres in their mouths, where shapely nudes rode around on stuffed ponies, where song hits were launched by stars like Maurice Chevalier, have always been a Paris tradition. Tomorrow they may be only a memory.

"Is Paris going to toss the little nude women out on the sidewalk?" the evening newspaper L'Intransigeant asked in a rueful article.

ALREADY the death blow to music halls has come by way of taxation.

Big-name stars who were the piece de resistance of any Paris variety show have wandered into greener fields, leaving their rickety stages for radio stations and foreign lands.

Edith Piaf, the spindly legged urchin who sang her way to fame from the crooked streets of Montmartre via the music halls is now in Scandinavia.

Maurice Chevalier, dean of the music hall singers, is now a smash success in New York.

Yves Montand, a six-foot-two baritone who sent Parisians into chuckles and tears when he sang such modern-day spirituals as "Hello Dick" and "The Last Metro," is making a boxing picture.

Charles Trenet, the "singing madman," whose "It rains in my room," "It rains in my bed" and "The Vagabond Song" were on the list of all Frenchmen from the President of the Republic to the Concierge, is also singing in an American night club.

Reason: net profits of all music halls are taxed 43 percent. For large music halls like the Folies, where the show is de luxe, the tax is 47 percent of the profits.

Theatres, on the other hand, are only taxed 28 percent. The tax for the city of Paris municipal government is 20 percent of the net profits alone, against 18 percent for theatres, so this explains why music hall managers are changing their fare.

ONE recent week, the ABC music hall was presenting a review; the "Elton" was a parody; the Alhambrilla, a radio programme; the Folies-Belleville, a radio programme (it will convert to a movie theatre next season). Managers of other well-known "live entertainment" centres are also snapping off the klieg lights and rolling up the silver screen.

Hardest hit in the music hall slump are not the entertainment hungry public. The smaller comedians, the youngsters trying out their own gags, the man who could make a card-jump out of an ordinary tumbler, the little nude dancer—these are the people who suffer.

To song-writers as well as to pleasure seekers, the music hall tax of the municipal council is dealing a death blow to the very heart of Paris itself.—United Press.

BY THE WAY
by Beachcomber

HEARING the husband of a very intelligent woman described as a dull dog, I thought of poor Geoffrey, the manufacturer of mirrors, who married Marie-Therese Rodet, and afterwards sat as a silent spectator of one of the most famous of the eighteenth century salons.

To brighten him up, his wife tried to get him to read a work of history or travel. But as she absent-mindedly always gave him the first volume, his criticism was: "Not interesting, but the author repeats himself a little." Once they gave him a volume of the Encyclopedia, printed in double columns. The good man read right across the page instead of down one column, and said: "Not bad, but rather abstruse."

His epitaph

ONE day a newcomer to the salon said to Mme. Geoffrin: "What has become of that old gentleman who used to be here a great deal?" "That was my husband," said she. "He's dead."

A saucy mystery

A MORNING paper reported the other day that a woman had gone into a shop to ask for an aquarium saucy, and that she was told that they were only sold in sets.

of three. "But I only want one," she said. "You have to take three," said the assistant. "Why," asked the woman, "because," said the assistant, "our quota is so restricted that they are only sold in sets of three." Obviously, if they become scarce they will be sold in sets of 12. And when there are no more left, you will have to take a hundred.

Papuan milking song

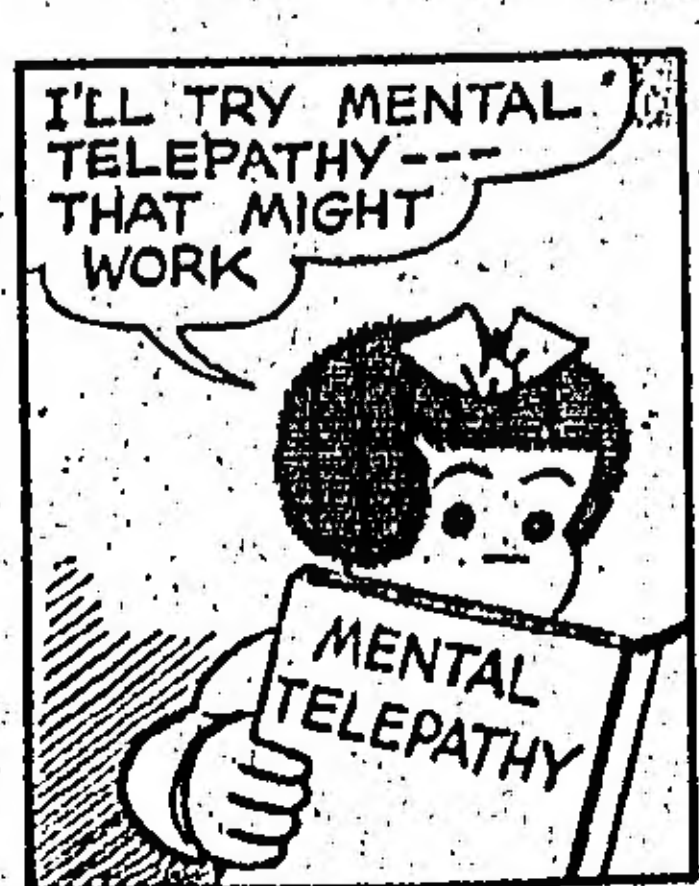
The pigmy cows of Papua are barely two feet tall. And they are milked by little mounds. Proportionately small. Chorus: It's little and good that does it. It's little and good that does it. And so say all of us Papuans.

And a giraffe

Playing the 'cello

It is to be held in the Royal Scottish Museum in Edinburgh will be a curiostalia affair. From the ceiling hangs the skeleton of a whale. The architects "will make the best of it by lighting and by filling in the cavities with scenes showing Scottish arts and crafts." An elephant near by, in a glass case, will, I trust, have a triangular piece of cheese on its head, and a piece of cheese on its head. Otherwise I shan't care much about the exhibition.

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SOEKARNO BROADCASTS ORDER TO CEASE FIRE

London, Aug. 4.—When the United Nations Security Council met this evening at Lake Success, the President, M. Faris Al Khoury (Syria), announced that he had received a cable from the Netherlands Government stating that a cease fire had been ordered in Indonesia as from 1700 hours GMT today. He also said that he had received a cable from the Indonesian Premier, Dr Amir Sjarifuddin, acknowledging receipt of the order to cease fire.

COMMONS QUESTION ON SHOOTING DOWN OF MERCY PLANE

London, Aug. 4.—The Independent Labour Member, Mr D. N. Pritt, asked the Foreign Secretary in the House of Commons today what he was doing about the action of the Dutch military plane which, on July 29, "shot down and killed several British subjects flying near Jogjakarta in a non-combatant aircraft carrying medical supplies."

Mr Christopher Mayhew, Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs, replied: "Records have been called for from all available sources regarding this unhappy incident, but full particulars are still lacking and I am not in a position to state what action is contemplated. It has been established that the aircraft in question had Indian registration and the Government of India have, therefore, been supplied with all our available information."—Reuter.

Special Budget Likely

(Continued from Page 1)

While the Leftist minority within the Labour Party is far too weak to influence seriously the expected Parliamentary approval of the crisis programme, the operation of Leftists in the trade unions in the utmost importance to the Government, who know well that any organised opposition by a minority may be enough to foil the all-out efforts needed during the coming months.

The Government will find it more difficult to satisfy its critics on steel than on manpower.

For the time being, therefore, they will probably hold off announcing their new steel plan, waiting instead for reaction by trade union leaders to Mr Attlee's crisis statement on Wednesday, but the course of the debate in Parliament may force them to disclose it earlier than they intended.

The principal feature of the plan will be the assumption by the Government of the directing power now vested in the iron and steel federation, and the buying bid of steel combines whose nationalisation is identified with "national interest."

Such a plan is bound to be regarded by extremists outside and even inside the Cabinet as a watering down of the original scheme.

Mr Churchill's Speech

(Continued from Page 1)

can be thought of a government which has drifted on from day to day until the lean is nearly exhausted?

"There is not one proposal that Mr Attlee can make on Wednesday that would not have been far more effective if made a year or six months ago."

Mr Churchill said the Government leaders had "exhausted whatever energies they had and consumed their time and thought in carrying out their party line in the House of Commons with partisan legislation, in discouraging and even paralyzing business enterprise by nationalisation schemes of no productive value, but which cast their threatening shadows and interferences far and wide over the whole field of British industry."

THE FIVE-DAY WEEK

He sharply criticised the management of the nationalised coal mines and recent imposition of a five-day week for miners and said: "They have not to realise that a five-day week founded upon an American role in the shape of imports produced by the exertions of American working men is not likely to last very long unless it results in improved production."

Mr Churchill also criticised the Government for:

"Wild financial extravagance" in which the Government cost £3,000,000,000 yearly or more than three times the pre-war budget.

"Too great expenditure on the Army and Navy for such meagre results in fighting power."

"Failure to inform the United Nations that Britain could no longer bear the burdens of insult and injury in Palestine."

Lending or spending abroad "without any return" more than £740,000,000 since the end of the war.—United Press.

Mr William Hodgson (Australia) said that he wanted to emphasise that he considered most inadequate the way the Council had communicated the order to the Indonesian Government. He accused the Netherlands authorities of delaying its transmission and preventing Indonesian officials from communicating with their Government.

Colonel Hodgson proposed the sending of some responsible United Nations officials to Indonesia to keep the Security Council informed. The President said that he would consult with the Secretariat on this point.

The Council then passed on to the Greek problem without giving any further discussion to the Indonesian case.

The Republican-controlled Surakarta Radio announced earlier today the Republican Government's receipt of the message from the Security Council, and expressed the gratitude of the Premier, Dr Sjarifuddin, on behalf of the Republic, to the Security Council for having urged both parties to the dispute to settle the conflict speedily.

Cease fire orders effective from midnight were broadcast tonight to Indonesian Republican forces by Dr Soekarno, the Indonesian President, in his capacity as Commander-in-Chief. His broadcast cleared up the uncertainty as to whether the Indonesians would immediately follow the Dutch example in ordering the cease fire in the fortnight old "little war" in accordance with the appeal made by the Security Council.

Earlier, Dr Sjarifuddin, had broadcast a warning that the actual cease fire might be delayed because of the time and means of communication. He asked that Dutch forces be withdrawn behind the original demarcation line.

The Republic wanted a settlement of the Indonesian conflict on a new basis, Dr Sjarifuddin said. The Dutch had torn up the Linggadjati Agreement by creation of an autonomous territory in Billiton and Banka (islands east of Sumatra) and the Rionw Archipelago (off Singapore).

Commissioner To Investigate The Republic now wanted the mediation of a third country but arbitration by an international commission.

Dr Sjarifuddin asked that Dutch forces be withdrawn behind the demarcation line existing before July 20 and that the Dutch release prisoners.

He said that the Republic had decided to issue the cease fire order without reservation. It demanded, however, that a commission be created to execute the order. The Republic had difficulty in bringing about the cessation of hostilities. He claimed that the Linggadjati Agreement was cancelled by Dutch aggression and statements.

No reports as yet reached Batavia indicating any violations of the cease fire order. The last news of heavy fighting in Java came from the Sourabaya front in the east, where Dutch troops and tanks, with air cover, today moved west of Tjemping against the Republicans who engaged them in many clashes, according to a Republican communiqué.

Another Republican report said that three people were killed yesterday in an air raid on Jogjakarta, the Republic's mountain capital of the Republic.

A Republic Army communiqué reported heavy fighting during the Dutch landing on Madura Island, in which four tanks were destroyed and one Dutch vessel forced to retreat to Sourabaya.

The communiqué added that the Dutch forces, advanced to Tjemping and Shellfish, west of Sourabaya, Dutch fighters, the communiqué said, attacked several planes in Central Java, killing and wounding several Indonesians.

Situation Different It was reported from Singapore tonight, quoting Jogjakarta Radio, that the Indonesian Republican Government, in its reply to the United Nations Security Council, urged the Council to appoint a commission of several countries to arbitrate in the Dutch-Indonesian conflict because "there is no guarantee the Dutch will not violate the cease fire order."

The reply, as quoted by Jogjakarta Radio, said that the present situation was not similar to that of November 1946, when cease fire was ordered by both sides and was witnessed by a third party. In 1946, Lord Killearn, British Special Commissioner in Southeast Asia, was accepted by both parties as mediator, and British, Dutch and Indonesian sat on a joint truce commission.

At the present time, no definite line of demarcation could be traced between the Republican and the Dutch forces, as the Republicans had adopted the system of people's defence, the reply said. Therefore, an international commission was essential to ensure a smooth and effective cessation of hostilities.

The Republican reply emphasises, the Radio said, that the Dutch order to end hostilities should be imperative.

Narcotics Trade In W. China

Chengtu, Aug. 4.—Opium and its deadly derivative, morphine, are enjoying a flourishing trade throughout Sikang and Szechuan provinces, informed sources told the United Press.

These sources said Chengtu is the principal market and claimed that a high government official has a virtual monopoly of the illicit traffic.

Travellers from Sikang said the purple poppies are grown throughout the provinces and opium taxes collected from the farms, which are "encouraged" to grow opium by higher taxes on other crops.

The informants said opium is being brought from surrounding areas on sedan chairs, mules and pack-sacks to Yunnan, near the Szechuan border, where it is processed into morphine. It is then sent by motor car to Chengtu to be sold for consumption, or by river boats to other parts of China.

Governor Liu Wen-hui maintains that the authorities in Chengtu have taken "official action" to halt the opium trade, including the execution of several violators, and the establishment of an opium hospital to cure addicts. One source charged this was a window dressing for the Government's highly effective means of removing competitors.—United Press.

ly imply cessation of all kinds of Dutch action, military or civil, against the Indonesian population.

Message From Plano

Dr Sjarifuddin regretted the delay in delivery of the Security Council's communication. An hour and a half after a Dutch bomber had appeared over Jogjakarta, airfield to drop official copy of the Security Council's cable, four Dutch fighters strafed villages adjoining the airfield, the Radio said.

Dr Gani, the Republican Vice-Premier, in a cable to the Security Council earlier today, said that he declined to take the responsibility for the delay in forwarding the Council's cease fire message to the Premier, Dr Amir Sjarifuddin. The Council's message, he said, was received in Batavia on August 2 but was not handed to him until after his release from custody at 7.30 p.m. on August 3. All the Republicans' means of communication and transport had been confiscated by the Dutch authorities and all officials prevented from carrying out their functions, he said. The Council's message therefore had to be broadcast by the Dutch to Jogjakarta.

The Netherlands news agency reported tonight from The Hague that the Netherlands Government is to invite three to five foreign Governments to send observers to Indonesia, irrespective of the Security Council's request to both parties to cease fire.

Dutch Labour Resolution

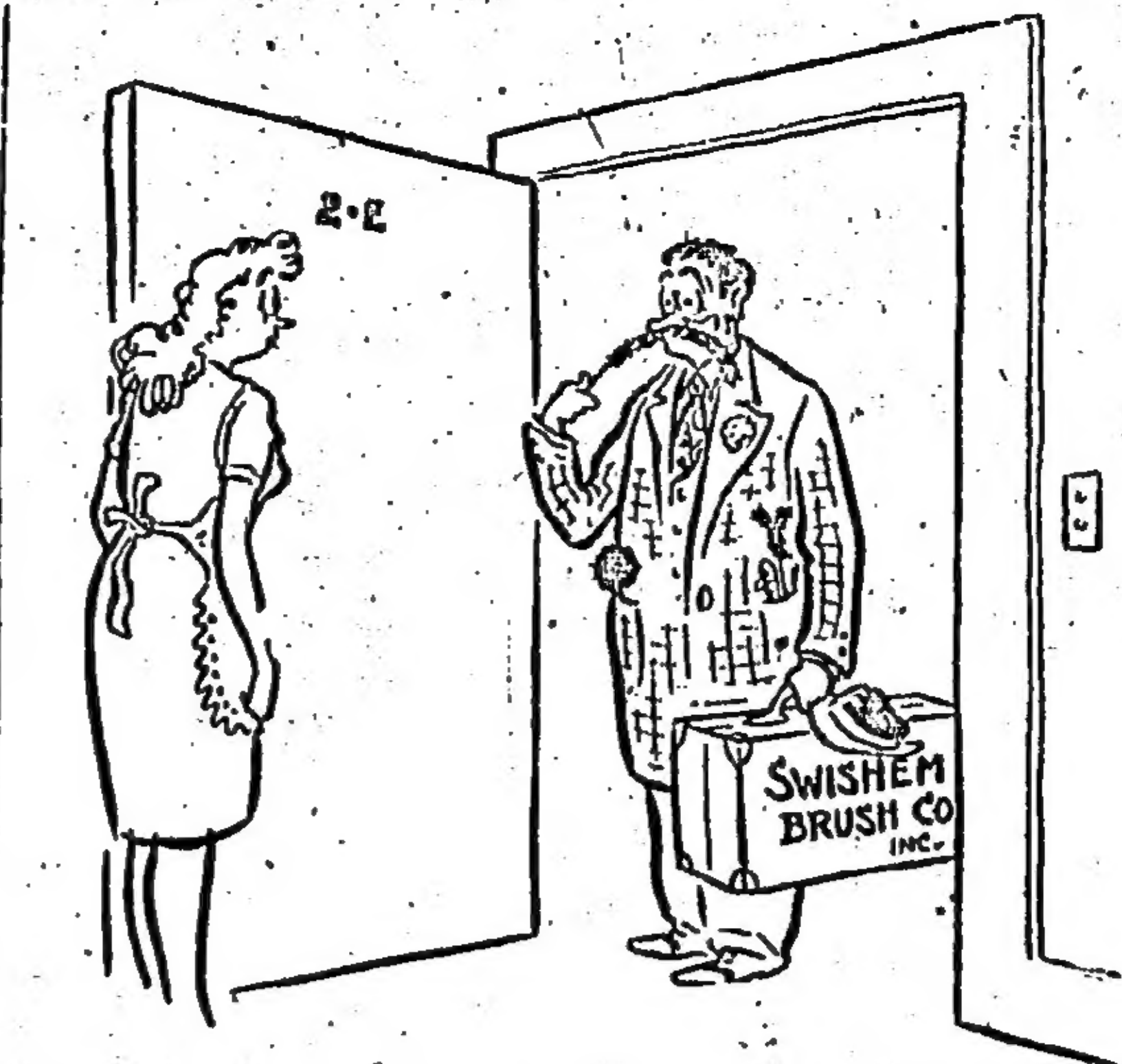
Left Wing intellectuals of the Dutch Labour Party today sent a resolution to the Dutch Labour Executive demanding the Government's recognition of the de facto authority of the Indonesian Republic over the whole of Java, Madura and Sumatra, when the Government's strict adherence to the principles of the Linggadjati Agreement.

Should the Government refuse, the resolution recommended the Labour Party's withdrawal from the Government, "because a Labour Party cannot remain part of a Government which is carrying out a policy contrary to the nation's right of self-determination."

The agency reported that it officially learned today that Dr T. H. Lamping, the Netherlands Minister in New Delhi, had asked the Government of India to lift the ban on KLM Royal Dutch Air Lines flying over India on the Amsterdam-Batavia route.

The Royal Dutch Air Lines today confirmed, the agency said, that the Government of India had stopped their planes from flying over India.

The airline's Twenty-left Amsterdam on the normal service to Batavia but was to halt at Cairo.—Reuter.



"This brush has a thousand uses, madam."

BEVIN REJECTS IDEA OF RECONSTITUTED SHAEF

London, Aug. 4.—The Foreign Secretary, Mr Ernest Bevin, declared in the House of Commons Germany debate tonight that he took the view that there should be no Four-Power control of the Ruhr "unless there is Four-Power control of all German industry."

A reconstituted SHAEF (Supreme Headquarters of the Allied Expeditionary Force) with General Dwight Eisenhower, the United States Chief of Staff, back at his old post as Commander in Chief was recommended by Mr Harold MacMillan, Conservative Member and former Air Secretary, to the House of Commons today as the means to achieve the economic and political integration of the British, French and the United States zones of Germany.

Mr MacMillan, initiating a debate on Germany and Austria, declared that France must be made an "equal partner" with Britain and the United States in any plans for the unity of Western Germany. France could make or mar any scheme which was put forward.

"The economic independence of Western Germany and Europe must be recognised," he declared. The French, American and British zones should be united into a workable whole.

Mr MacMillan warned against the "Zalkantisation" of Germany which would result if she were broken up into self-contained economic units. "Political federation must be combined with economic co-ordination and unity," he said.

He recommended an integrated headquarters and an integrated regional staff.

Mr MacMillan declared that Germany must govern herself for more than at present. The Allies should become not "rulers" but a small body of expert advisers. In that way, military forces could be reduced.

Charging the Government with "weakness and indecision," Mr MacMillan said that it had no clear policy towards Germany.

Suggestion Rejected

Replying to the debate, Mr Bevin rejected the suggestion for a SHAEF organisation in Germany. He said that a Supreme Commander was all right in war but not right when one began to build for peace.

He thought that the right thing to do was to "take steps for a stage" until ultimately there was a proper Government in Germany—"a Government with which we can deal." He described the suggestion of a SHAEF as "silly thinking." "In one breath I am told to develop democracy in Germany and give them responsibility to manage their own affairs, and at the same time I am asked to perpetuate a military dictatorship over them by SHAEF," he said.

Other points made by Mr Bevin were that when the present arrangements for the supply of dollar foods to the British zone of Germany ran.

Jap Wife Was Mythical

New York, Aug. 4.—Harold Hirschberg testified at his court martial today that he created the myth that he had a Japanese wife so that he would not be shot by his Japanese captors.

Prosecution witnesses testified earlier that Hirschberg had told them he married a Japanese girl in Hongkong before the war and that she had followed him to Manila.

Taking the stand for the first time, Hirschberg said that while he was in prisoner-of-war camp at Fort McKinley in Manila, he wrote a letter to a Filipino girl in an effort to get help from the Filipino underground. He said a Japanese guard intercepted the letter but allowed it to go through after Hirschberg told him it was for his wife and that she was a Japanese girl.

Hirschberg said the story circulated through the camp but he was forced to continue the deception because he feared for his life if it became known that he had deceived the guard. He said he addressed the letter to "Mrs F. Hirschberg" and it reached the Filipino girl, who gave him assistance, including food, clothing and money.—United Press.

Applications For UNO Membership Considered

Lake Success, Aug. 4.—Russia's attempt to shelve the United Nations membership applications of Rumania, Hungary, Italy and Austria was voted down by the Security Council's Membership Committee today.

JAPANESE WHALERS GET READY

Tokyo, Aug. 4.—The Agriculture and Forestry Ministry spokesman said preparations were proceeding smoothly for a second whaling expedition to leave Japan in the first week of November for the Antarctic, and described as "fantastic" a Japanese news agency's report that the expedition might fail to materialise on account of alleged opposition by the Finance Ministry to sanction 2,000,000,000 yen sought by fishery interests.

Keijiro Maeda, whaling expert at the Agriculture and Forestry Ministry, admitted government was in financial difficulties and also suffering from a shortage of materials, but that government would dispatch a whaling expedition to the Antarctic because of the dire food situation still prevailing in Japan.

He said the tentative plans, still to be approved by SCAP, called for the dispatch of the same two factory ships which made the first expedition last winter—the Taiyo Fishery Company's Nishin Maru of 11,000 tons and the Nihon Suisan Kaisha's Hashitate Maru of 10,700 tons.

Maeda added that each factory ship would be accompanied by six catcher boats of 850 to 370 tons each.

He said both companies were pushing preparations, and had reported smooth progress. The ships' complement would be about the same as the last expedition.

Shigeo Takeda, of the Taiyo Fishery Company, said in the event of any charges made against the Japanese of indiscriminate killing of seals, whalers, which "are not true," SCAP supervisors would measure each whale killed.—United Press.

Diplomatic Friendship

Washington, Aug. 4.—Argentina and the Irish Free State today established diplomatic relations for the first time in their histories in a simple ceremony in the Argentine Embassy.

Diplomatic notes were exchanged between the Argentine Ambassador and the Irish Minister.—United Press.

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